

REMARKS

The claims in the application remain 34-66.

Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.


The independent claims have been amended to delete the % sign.

Clarification of the etherification degree has been made as requested at the bottom of page 2 of the previous Office Action. More particularly, the degree of substitution of the glucose units constituting the cellulose molecule is now correctly recited as 0.5- less than 1.0. Support for this correction is quite apparent throughout the present application, e.g, in the test example 1 prepared on pages 8-10 of the present application and presented in accompanying Table 1.

Accordingly, it is again respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned attorney be contacted to discuss the present application.

Early favorable action is again earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
DILWORTH & BARRESE


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34. (Currently Amended) A soluble trauma-healing hemostatic cellulose fiber, wherein at least one coagulation protein is imparted to at least one natural or regenerated cellulose fiber that has been carboxymethylated to an extent such that degree of substitution of the glucose units constituting the cellulose molecule is 0.5–less than 1.0 %.

53. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a soluble trauma-healing hemostatic cellulose fiber, comprising the steps of:

treating natural or regenerated cellulose fiber with an aqueous sodium hydroxide solution,

reacting the thus-treated fibers with a monochloro acetic acid solution for carboxymethylation to an extent such that degree of substitution of hydroxyl groups of glucose units constituting the cellulose molecule is 0.5 to less than 1.0 %,

subsequently refining the fibers and then imparting three coagulation proteins which are fibrinogen, thrombin and coagulation factor XIII by spraying, and then drying.

56. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a soluble trauma-healing hemostatic cellulose fiber, comprising the steps of:

- treating natural or regenerated cellulose fiber with an aqueous sodium hydroxide solution,
- reacting the thus-treated fibers with a monochloro acetic acid solution for carboxymethylation to an extent such that degree of substitution of hydroxyl groups of glucose units constituting the cellulose molecule is 0.5 to less than 1.0 %,
- subsequently refining the fibers and then imparting three coagulation proteins which are fibrinogen, thrombin and coagulation factor XIII by chemical bonding, and
- then drying.

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